

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1 (original): A wound dressing or implant comprising an enzymatic compound or reagent that is effective in reducing the concentration of lactate in an aqueous solution in contact with said wound dressing.

Claim 2 (currently amended): The wound dressing or implant according to ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein the compound or reagent is bound to the surface of a solid wound dressing material.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The wound dressing or implant according to ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein said compound or reagent comprises an enzyme.

Claim 4 (original): The wound dressing or implant according to claim 3, wherein said enzyme comprises lactate oxidase.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The wound dressing or implant according to ~~any preceding~~ claim 1 additionally comprising a compound capable of reducing H_2O_2 to H_2O and molecular oxygen.

Claim 6 (original): The wound dressing or implant according to claim 5 wherein said compound capable of reducing H_2O_2 to H_2O and molecular oxygen is a catalase enzyme.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The wound dressing or implant according to ~~any preceding~~ claim 1 additionally comprising a chromogenic redox indicator compound or system for indicating the presence of H_2O_2 .

Claim 8 (original): The wound dressing or implant according to claim 7 wherein said indicator compound or system comprises a compound selected from the group consisting of 2,2'-azino-bis- (3-ethylbenzthiazoline-6-sulphonic acid) (ABTS); o-phenylenediamine (OPD); 3,3',5,5'-tetramethylbenzidine (TMB); 0-dianisidine; 5-aminosalicylic acid (5AS); 3,3'-diaminobenzidine (DAB); 3-amino-9-ethylcarbazole (AEC) and 4-chloro-1-naphthol (4CIN)..

Claim 9 (original): The wound dressing or implant according to claim 7, wherein said indicator system comprises a peroxidase enzyme.

Claim 10 (currently amended): The wound dressing or implant according to ~~any preceding~~ claim 1 comprising a solid material with amine, hydroxyl, sulfhydryl, carbonyl or active hydrogen reactive chemistries.

Claim 11 (currently amended): The wound dressing or implant according to ~~any preceding~~ claim 1 comprising a proteinaceous, carbohydrate, plastic or polyurethane material.

Claim 12 (currently amended): The wound or implant according to ~~any preceding~~ claim 1 which is a solid dressing comprising a solid substrate having the enzymatic compounds or reagents dispersed thereon or therein.

Claim 13 (currently amended): The wound dressing or implant according to ~~any of claims 1 to 10~~ claim 1 which is a semisolid ointment for topical application comprising a hydrogel selected from cellulose derivatives, hydroxyethyl cellulose, hydroxymethyl cellulose carboxymethyl cellulose, hydroxypropylmethyl cellulose and hydrogels containing polyacrylic acid and mixtures thereof.

Claim 14 (currently amended): The wound dressing or implant according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 additionally comprising a medicament.

Claim 15 (currently amended): The wound dressing or implant according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 additionally comprising one or more immunological or other binding partners for one or more molecules present in a wound fluid.

Claim 16 (original): Use of an enzymatic compound or reagent that is effective to reduce the concentration of lactate in an aqueous solution for the preparation of a dressing or implant for the treatment of wounds.